BIBL CANT ACAD

The Copy of a Letter *to* Thomas Buck *Esq; Beadle to the Universsity of* Cambridge.

Mr. Buck,

IF I had been well you ſhould have heard from me before now, concerning a Requeſt you made to Mr. *Turner* in *October* paſt; which as he is pleaſed to relate to me, was, That he would tell me from you that I had wronged the Eſtate at *Therlow* of Two Thouſand Pounds, and that you would prove it to be truth.

If you were ſubject to ſpeak truth, or if I were guilty, your dogmatical aſſertion would ſtartle me; but I am ſo well aſſured of my own Integrity, and have been ſo much uſed to ſuch nonninoes from you, and have ſo often baffled and diſproved you concerning ſuch like idle Reports, that all Perſons not willing to be deceived, and that will hear with both Ears, look upon ſuch like Reports from you now, but, as indeed they are, ſome of Mr. *Bucks* Stories; ſo that I account your tongue no ſlander: But Mr. *Turner* conceives his Diſcretion in queſtion by you for his imploying of me. Therefore for his Vindication, I ſhall once more invite you to a profitable Tryal of your Truth and my Fidelity: But by the way give me leave to ask you a few ſerious Queſtions. Was it diſcretion or honeſty of you, that was intruſted, to receive my Accounts, to give me two or three Diſcharges of them, and for ſuch conſiderable Sums, and never, as you ſay your ſelf, ſo much as to examine them? Was it diſcretion or honeſty about two years after ſuch Diſcharges, to charge me with 2387 *l.* 8 *s.* 00 *d.* and in about two years ſtrong endevours (with the aſſiſtance of eſpouſed Friends, and foul Play to boot) could not prove two pence of that Charge againſt me? Or if you could, Was it diſcretion in you to give me an ample general Diſcharge of all Matters, except 80 *l.* 09 *s.* 04 *d.* for Rent never denied you? Were not you, only, guilty of part of that you charged me withall? Was it diſcretion or honeſty, about three or four years after all this to report that I had wronged the Eſtate of four or five thouſand pound, and yet not to appear to ſo fair a profer as give and take, to make good your Aſſertion, or to vindicate your ſelf? Did you exhibit juſt Accounts, and yet ſometimes want 2387 *l.* 08 *s.* 00 *d.* other times 4 or 5000 *l.* and now 2000 *l.* and could tell no better where to find any of the Sums then at theſe Rates? Did you underſtand your ſelf and my Accounts no better? Do you underſtand either yet? Do you not play the *Lapwing* all this while, and make the biggeſt noiſe fartheſt from the Neſt? Do you believe your ſelf in this Report to Mr. *Turner*; 'tis a Lye that you have told often enough? If you do, you muſt needs be willing to joyn this Iſſue, *viz.* You and I to chuſe either of us a Man, to impower thoſe two to chuſe a third Perſon, all of honeſt Repute, and living within eight Miles of *New-Market*; juſt half way for both of us to meet: Into thoſe three Perſons hands, you and I to depoſite a Hundred Pounds a piece; and if you can make it appear that I have wronged the Eſtate at *Therlow* of Two Thouſand Pounds, ſo as two of thoſe three ſhall ſubſcribe it under their hands, then ſhall they award you all the money; but if you fail of ſuch Proof, then good reaſon it ſhould be awarded me.

From the Three and Twentieth Day of *July* to the Second of *Auguſt*, will be my beſt Time to meet; if any of thoſe days ſuit your occaſions, fix your Day, name your Man, and ſend me my Charge in particulars; there is reaſon I ſhould have a few daies to prepare my Defence, you having had ſo many years to prepare a Charge. If my Time ſuit not your Occaſions, do you ſet a Time before *Michaelmaſs* next, Ile ſet Harveſt Occaſions aſide to meet you, as the beſt Harveſt I can make; and 'tis pity but one of us ſhould prove Faithful to that Truſt, ſince you know I did make it appear in ſeveral particulars wherein your Accounts were not juſt; to ſay nothing of your Imprudence. All you can ſay will not ſignifie a jot, nothing but on theſe Terms, To meet

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Weſtly, June 14, Your very Friend,